[1st February 1923

A.—The following extracts from the orders governing the subject will probably sufficiently explain the situation :—

"Leave under the Fundamental Rules cannot be claimed as of right. When the exigencies of the public service so require, discretion to refuse or revoke leave of any description is reserved to the authority empowered to grant it.

Casual leave is not leave under the Fundamental Rules, nor strictly speaking is it leave at all. It cannot be claimed nor is it intended to be given for the purpose of rest or change. It is only intended to provide for short periods of absence in emergencies."

Expenditure incurred by the Board of Revenue without Government sanction.

755 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the authority under which the Board of Revenue incurred an expenditure of Rs. 22,832-15-3 under establishment and contingencies for stamping weights and measures in 1921-22 without the sanction of the Government ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the provisions in item 131 of Appendix F of the Appendices to the Madras Treasury Manual and paragraph 3 of Standing Order No. 204 in the Board's Standing Orders, Volume I.

Velugodu and Siddapuram projects.

756 *Q.*—Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the circumstances under which the Velugodu and Siddapuram projects were begun and what initial expenditure was incurred in investigating the possibilities of these projects ?

A.—The projects were investigated by the Superintending Engineer appointed on special duty in 1901 for collecting information regarding the protective irrigation schemes in this Presidency to assist in the inquiry of the Irrigation Commission. Figures showing the initial expenditure incurred on the investigation of these projects are not available as the work was carried on for a number of years.

Institution of pipe-system in Nandyal municipality.

757 *Q.*—Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Nandyal municipality once forwarded a proposal to the Government for instituting pipe-system in Nandyal ; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on that proposal ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The Government have appointed in December 1922 a committee consisting of the Sanitary Engineer, the Director of Public Health and the Director of the King Institute to examine and

report on the following schemes for the supply of water to Nandyal and on such other schemes as may be practicable with special reference to the quality of water in the Cuddapah-Kurnool Canal:—

(1) Supply from the Cuddapah-Kurnool Canal with a storage tank near the Peddacheruvu.
(2) Supply from the Cuddapah-Kurnool Canal with a storage tank near the Chinnacheruvu.
(3) Supply from the Mahanandhi springs.

Extension of Tinnevelly municipal limits.

758 Q.—Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) at what cost the Kandiaperi extension of the Tinnevelly municipality was acquired; and

(2) what steps are being taken to parcel it out into house-sites and sell the same to the public?

A.—(1) Rupees 30,843.

(2) The Chairman of the Municipal Council reports that the lay-out of the extension has been completed and the area divided into 56 house-sites but that none of the sites has actually been sold.

Separate Deputy Director of Agriculture for planting interests.

759 Q.—Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(1) whether there is a separate Deputy Director for Agriculture employed to look after the planting interest, and, if so, for how many years he has been appointed and on what salary;

(2) whether there is another Deputy Director, an Imperial Officer, looking after the area inhabited by planters;

(3) whether the planters have been contributing towards the salary of that officer, and, if so, for how many years and in what proportion;

(4) whether there is a demand from the said planters for exemption from such contribution and, if so, on what grounds; and

(5) for how many years an Agricultural Engineer has been employed, and, if so, what is the kind of work he has been doing in the field of research and in the direction of improving implements and what is his salary?

A.—(1) Yes; the appointment has been in existence since 1909 and the present sanction for its retention expires in April 1924. The holder of the post is a member of the Indian Agricultural Service and the existing incumbent is drawing Rs. 600 per mensem.

(2) No. Possibly the Rubber Mycologist is meant.

(3) It is presumed the words 'that officer' refer to the officer mentioned in clause (1) of the question. The planters have been contributing towards the cost of this officer since the creation of the appointment in 1909. His salary is now Rs. 7,200 per annum and the present contribution Rs. 6,848 per annum.